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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/804,634	02/21/2001	Barry E. Willner	101.012	2625

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EXAMINER

CUFF, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3627

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/804,634

Applicant(s)

WILLNER ET AL. 

Examiner

Michael Cuff

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20010221.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Haines et al.

Haines et al. shows, figure 1, a self-adjusting order-assistance system. The system has a computer-implemented self-adjusting consumable order-assistance system is provided which implements a program in which consumable components of computer peripheral devices are replenished. The system includes a personal computer, at least one computer peripheral device, a communication link (means for requesting and transmitting/receiving information), and a user interface. The personal computer has a messaging system. The at least one computer peripheral device has a messaging system (along with user interface, receiving and transmitting performed by device associated with dispensing the consumable item). The communication link signal couples the personal computer with a provider of a consumable. The user interface comprises an end user interaction interface, a workgroup administrator interface, or a centralized system administrator interface. The end user interaction

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interface includes the personal computer configurable for interaction by a user that is exchanging information with a computer peripheral device associated with the personal computer. FIG. 4 (combining FIGS. 4A and 4B) illustrates server-based, centralized network environment 300 where user interface 19 (of FIG. 1) is configured as a centralized network administrator interface 310 which provides an information technology (IT) professional centralized administrator interface. Such an interface 310 is provided by a software utility such as Web JetAdmin, available from Hewlett-Packard Company, of Palo Alto, Calif.; TopTools, available from Hewlett-Packard Company, of Palo Alto, Calif.; or a Tivoli management software application for e-business applications, available from Tivoli Systems, Inc., of Austin, Tex. As an example, TopTools comprises a web-based tool (interactive, transmitting and receiving) that helps a user or administrator manage computer assets, upgrade PC BIOS and drivers (upgraded executable consumption programs, improves consumption of the consumable item), manage network devices and printers, and keep track of network resources and performance. Based on industry standards such as DMI, SNMP, WMI, TCP/IP and HTTP, TopTools will increase efficiency by providing immediate device status from any location in a computer environment.

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Conclusion

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Higgins, Rothermet, and Silverbrook show systems of interest.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Cuff whose telephone number is (703) 308-0610. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski can be reached on (703) 308-5183. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

 9/28/04
Michael Cuff
September 28, 2004